



Early Start on I-44 Roadwork

Missouri will make an early start on many months of roadwork on Interstate 44 this year. The first of 26 projects planned for I-44 begins March 1. The others continue through December. Drivers will encounter delays that could affect shipping schedules.

You might wish to make adjustments in travel schedules based on the dates and locations of the projects. MoDOT data shows peak travel times for Interstate 44 are Thursday, Friday and Sunday afternoons. Adjustments, such as taking alternate routes, during these time periods may be of greatest benefit. See page 2 for a timeline of the largest projects.

Every effort will be made to minimize delays caused by the work, but they will occur. MoDOT's goal is to repay your inconvenience with improvements that will make your jobs easier in the long term. The Smoother, Safer, Sooner program provides progress you can feel.

Four major construction projects will involve head-to-head or other extreme traffic situations around the clock, seven days per week. We expect occasional major delays and have marked alternate routes with special signs. The projects include:

2. I-44 at Rolla, Mo. – 2 miles of lane reconstruction and additions, one lane closed eastbound May 7-26; one lane closed westbound Oct. 1-25 between mile markers 184 and 186; intermittent lane closings throughout construction, no interruptions during weekends and major holidays; recommended alternate route - Route 63 to Route 60

3. I-44 at Lebanon, Mo., to the Laclede/Pulaski County line – 10 miles of lane reconstruction, one lane open in each direction of head-to-head traffic; June 1 through Aug. 15, 2006 between mile markers 135 and 145; recommended alternate route - Route 63 to Route 60

4. I-44 at Pacific, Mo. – 6 miles of lane reconstruction, currently under construction through December 2006; the work zone has two lanes of traffic open in each direction

Also scheduled for I-44 are 22 other projects, with hundreds more on other interstates and highways. Some projects require single lane closures which could result in traffic interruptions. We encourage all motorists to plan ahead by visiting www.modot.org or calling, toll-free, 1-888-ASK MODOT (888-275-6636) to get traffic information.

1. I-44 at Cuba, Mo. – 12 miles of lane reconstruction, one lane open in each direction of head-to-head traffic; March 1 through May 25, 2006 between mile markers 201 and 214; recommended alternate route - Route 50 to Route 28 to Route 63 for westbound traffic and vice-versa for eastbound travelers.



www.modot.org/mcs

Inside

- 2** "Tracker" Spells Out Improvements, Challenges
- 3** Hours of Service Rules Now Fully Enforced
- 4** New OD/OW Permit Regulations in Effect
- 5** Staggered IRP Registration

2006 Interstate 44 Major Construction Projects

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Cuba	12 miles lane reconstruction: 24-hour head-to-head traffic March 1, May 25 at mile markers 201 - 214. Major delays expected; Recommended alternate route: Hwy 50 to 28 to 63										
Rolla			2 miles lane reconstruction and additions: one lane closed eastbound May 7-26; one lane closed westbound Oct. 1-25 between mile markers 184-186; major delays expected; Recommended alternate route: Hwy 63 to 60								
Lebanon				10 miles lane reconstruction: 24-hour head-to-head traffic June 1 - August 15 at mile markers 135-145; major delays expected; Recommended alternate route: Hwy 63 to 60							
Pacific	6 miles lane reconstruction: 24-hour narrow travel lanes with lane shifts currently under construction through December 2006; work zone will have two lanes of traffic open in each direction										

Twenty-two other projects including surface overlays and pavement work are scheduled for the length of Interstate 44 in 2006. These projects require single lane closures could result in traffic interruptions.

Plan ahead by visiting www.modot.org or calling toll-free, 1-888-ASK-MODOT (888-275-6636) for detailed project information and alternate routes. In the St. Louis Area visit www.gatewayguide.com or call 1-888-511-45TL (4785) for automated St. Louis real-time traffic information.

Jan's Letter

Are you ready for spring? I sure am. Of course the warmer weather means that road construction season is here, too. We're going to see an early start on Interstate 44 projects, so plan ahead, visit www.modot.org and get a feel for where those crews will be making Missouri highways smoother and safer – sooner.

This month, MoDOT MCS Safety and Compliance investigators will be the first in the nation to add a new component to regular safety checks. They'll assess carriers' security needs and offer advice to help correct issues. Information will be shared with federal agencies that work to head off potential threats to national security.

In March, I normally tell you how the renewal season turned out – but this year, there's a twist. We've mailed out renewal packets to those of you who changed your renewal date from December 31 to June 30. Renewals should be easier now too, because you can file over the Internet.

Nearly 80 percent of OD/OW permit requests are made on-line now, and you can submit IFTA first quarter filings and registration materials over the Internet. Soon, you'll be able to file IRP documents electronically. Watch our Web site, www.modot.org/mcs for up-to-date progress reports.

We're making progress in highway smoothness and conducting business electronically. As always, we appreciate your thoughts and ideas for improvement. Send them in!



Motor Carrier Services Director

MoDOT's "Tracker" Spells Out Improvements, Challenges

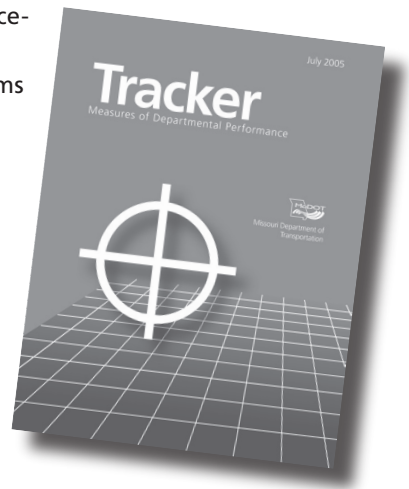
Are Missourians getting a good return on their investment in transportation? A MoDOT quarterly publication called the Tracker uses the latest data to analyze more than 100 performance measures.

"The Tracker is the public's window into MoDOT and the transportation system we're responsible for," said department director Pete Rahn. "It spells out what's working, as well as where we've got to improve. Taxpayers deserve to see the progress we're making with their money, and the Tracker lays it out for them - warts and all."

The Missouri State Government Review Commission recently recognized the Tracker. In its final report, the commission said state government should "encourage

objective, performance-based, results-driven service delivery systems in state government, similar to MoDOT's 'Tracker' system."

Check out Tracker for yourself! Visit www.modot.org/about/general_info/Tracker.htm or call 1-888-ASK MODOT (888-275-6636) for a copy.



Hours of Service Rules Now Fully Enforced

When issuing new hours of service rules in October 2005, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration officials pledged to work with states and the trucking community for the rule's first three months to allow time for carriers to update educational materials, train employees and re-program driving schedules. During the transitional period, which ended December 31, 2005, FMCSA and state law enforcement officials monitored carriers for only egregious violations of the new rule and pursued enforcement action only where necessary.

As of January 1, 2006, carriers can expect to be held fully accountable to compliance with the rule which replaces Hours-of-Service regulations that were last updated in 2003.

The new rule prohibits truckers from driving more than eleven hours in a day or driving after the 14th hour of a workday. Operators also may not drive after working 60 hours during a seven-day period or 70 hours in an eight day period. The new rule requires truckers to rest for at least ten hours between shifts and provides a 34-hour period to recover from cumulative fatigue.

One important change in the HOS rule allows short-haul operators who are not required to hold a commercial drivers license, (e.g. landscape crews and delivery drivers who work within a 150 mile radius of their starting point), to extend their work day twice a week. They no longer have to maintain logbooks, though they must

keep time records. The change was prompted by safety data that show short haul drivers make up over half the commercial fleet yet are involved in less than seven percent of the nation's fatigue-related fatal truck crashes.

Another change contained in the new rule requires truckers who use sleeper-berths to rest for eight hours in a row, and take another two consecutive hours off duty before resetting their daily driving schedule. Studies show that drivers are less likely to be fatigued if they take a single eight hour block of rest than if they break their rest into smaller periods of time as they were allowed under the previous rule.

Apportioned Plate Info Recommendation

The Missouri Motor Carriers Association and several Missouri State Department directors are working to resolve problems law enforcement officers have in accessing apportioned license plate registration information. In the meantime, if a law enforcement officer has difficulty locating your apportioned license plate information, the Missouri State Highway Patrol recommends that you ask the officer to run a Manual License Lookup (nationwide law enforcement slang) using code **MOLIC0000**.

New OD/OW Permit Regulations Now in Effect

Since late 2004, a group of industry representatives, federal, MoDOT and other state agency employees worked to update state rules and processes related to overdimension and overweight permits. With public input, a final rule was established and new regulations went into effect February 28, 2006.

A copy of the regulations book was mailed to escrow account holders. If you would like a copy, send an e-mail with your name and mailing address to contact mcs@modot.mo.gov. You can find an electronic version on our Web site: www.modot.org/mcs/documents/OandOPermitRegs.pdf

Here are some of the many changes made to Missouri's OD/OW regulations. The list is not all-inclusive. Be sure to read all the regulations.

Major Changes

- Minimum limits for insurance increased. Proof of insurance is required before a permit is issued
- Permit privileges can be suspended or revoked if 3 percent of a company's permit documents are confiscated by law enforcement because of violations
- Permit fees can now be made with a credit/debit card or bank-to-bank transfer. MCS accepts MasterCard, American Express and Discover credit and debit cards.

- Permit fees increased approximately 25 percent.
- Multiple commodity blanket permits are now available.
- Construction equipment blanket permits replace the former soil conservation and road building equipment blankets
- A new 100-mile Radius blanket permit allows farmers and farm implement dealers to move farm implements 14'6" wide within 100 mile radius of the principle place of business
- A \$2 amendment fee applies for each change after a permit is issued - a request to increase weights requires a new permit and full permit fees at the new weight
- Electronic filing of permit requests is available on www.modot.org/mcs
- Equipment with dual tires may now be hauled without removing one set of tires
- Curfews in tourist and metro areas are modified
- More hauling configurations are now acceptable
- Routine permitted weight limits increased to 160,000 from 152,000 for truck-tractor/trailer configurations (not including specialized equipment)
- Restrictions for superloads were added
- Now, house move regulations mirror superload requirements
- MCS's Jefferson City Office is open on six State holidays

New CDL Drivers Require "Entry-Level" Driver Training

All CDL drivers with less than one year of CMV operating must receive training on driver qualification requirements, hours of service rules, driver wellness and protections provided them by whistleblower laws.

Employers of entry-level drivers must ensure the driver has received a training certificate and must place a copy of the certificate in the driver's personnel or qualification file.

All related records are to be maintained and made available for inspection at the employer's principal place of business within two business days of a request by an authorized representative of the Department of Transportation. The employer must keep the records for as long as the driver is employed, plus one year.

The training provider must supply a training certificate or diploma to the entry-level driver- even if the employer is the training provider. The certificate or diploma must contain the following information:

- (a) Date of certificate issuance.
- (b) Name of training provider.
- (c) Mailing address of training provider.
- (d) Name of driver.
- (e) A statement that the driver has completed training in driver qualification requirements, hours of service, driver wellness, and whistleblower protection requirements substantially in accordance with the following sentence:

I certify _____ has completed training requirements set forth in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations for entry-level driver training in accordance with 49 CFR 380.503.
- (f) The printed name of the person attesting that the driver has received the required training.
- (g) The signature of the person attesting that the driver has received the required training.

Staggered IRP Registration Schedule Begins

We've talked about it for months and now it's here. Starting this spring, "registration season" for Missouri's motor carriers is year 'round.

Those of you who chose to change your renewal schedule to the third quarter of 2006 will soon receive a packet of materials and instructions. Because everything you need for registering electronically is ready, you'll find instructions for online filing, too.

Renewal Period	Renewal Filing by	Renewal Paid by	Plates Expire
3rd Quarter - July	April 3	June 1	June 30, 2007
4th Quarter - Oct.	July 3	Sept. 1	Sept. 30, 2007
1st Quarter - Jan.	Oct. 2	Dec. 1	Dec. 31, 2007
2nd Quarter - April	Jan. 2	March 1	March 31, 2007

MCS Field Offices

Motor Carrier Services employees in nine field offices investigate safety complaints and conduct safety audits and compliance reviews of carrier operations. You can call them with questions about these programs – or if you'd like them to make a safety presentation for your company or organization.

They welcome your calls about safety and compliance, but want you to know that OD/OW permit, IFTA and IRP calls should go to 1-866-831-6277.

MCS District Field Offices

Cameron	Ph: 816-649-1200	Fax: 816-649-1210
Macon	Ph: 660-385-1496	Fax: 660-385-1517
Warrensburg	Ph: 660-543-1000	Fax: 660-543-1003
Jefferson City	Ph: 573-522-4936	Fax: 573-751-4354
St. Charles	Ph: 636-940-3315	Fax: 636-940-3319
Joplin	Ph: 417-629-3347	Fax: 417-629-3373
Springfield	Ph: 417-895-6365	Fax: 417-895-6364
Willow Springs	Ph: 417-469-6270	Fax: 417-469-4802
Poplar Bluff	Ph: 573-840-9740	Fax: 573-840-9206

Datelines

March 6

2006 work zone season begins with lane closures between mile markers 201-214 on Missouri Interstate 44

April 3

3rd quarter IRP renewals due on file

April 3-7

National Work Zone Awareness Week

April 17

Financial statements for household goods carriers and non-charter passenger carriers due

May 1

2nd quarter fuel tax returns due

May 9

Harry S Truman's Birthday – State Holiday – MCS offices open, other MoDOT offices closed

May 29

Memorial Day – State Holiday – All MoDOT offices closed

June 1

3rd quarter IRP renewal due to be paid

June 6-8

Roadcheck 2006. Annual truck enforcement blitz sponsored by Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance

July 1

3rd quarter IRP 2007 credentials must be displayed

July 3

4th quarter IRP renewal due on file

Did You Know?

Slowing from 70 mph to 50 mph for a one-mile work zone adds just 20 seconds to your trip.

News on Wheels

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Additional copies available upon request.
If you have any questions or comments, please send them to the address at left.

Motor Carrier Services Director
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Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.





News on **Wheels**

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International Registration Plan	Regulations, IRP applications, reciprocity, trip permits, temporary authorizations, license plates, cab cards
International Fuel Tax Agreement	Regulations, Missouri IFTA applications, temporary fuel permits
Overdimension and Overweight	Regulations, permits, blanket permits
Single State Registration, Interstate Exempt, Intrastate Authority, Housemovers License, Hazardous Waste and Waste Tires	Applications, SSRS receipts, stamps, stickers, licenses, proof of insurance
Safety and HM Regulations/Enforcement	Information, regulations, training, compliance reviews, educational contacts, complaint investigations

Web site: www.modot.org/mcs